ment of a number of products | systems. The company has successfully assimilated technology through foreign collaborations and has developed capability to execute on a turn-key basis thermal and hydro projects and to supply a wide range of equipment in power, industry and transport sectors. However, they enter into and renew foreign collaborations! on a selective basis to meet customer preferences and market needs. In recognition of its R&D efforts, BHEL has recently got two prestigious awards viz. NRDC Innovative Inventors Award & FCCI Award for outstanding contribution in development of new products.

(c) BHEL at present ?pend about 2 per cent of its annual turnover on R&D which is the highest amongst engineering industries in the country In developed countries large corporations lie General Electric. Westing House, USA, Siemens, West Germany have 3 to 4 times higher percentage of expenditure on R&D as compared to BHEL, but their product range is also wider and includes products having a faster rate of obsolescence.

Setting up of Gas Based Power Stations

3444. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NTPC proposes to set up three gas-based power units in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details re garding their locations; and

(c) by when the proposed task will be completed and to what extent the problem of power in the concerned States will be solved?

THE MINISTER OE STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OP ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI); (a) to (c) The National Thermal Powe$_r$ Corporation is implementing three gas-based Combined Cycle power project at Kawas in Gujarat, Auraiya in U. P. and Anta in Rajasthan. The first units of the projects are scheduled to be commissioned in 24 months from the dates of placement of orders for main plant and equipment. The remaining units are expected to be commissioned at intervals of two months each thereafter. The first units of the steam turbines are scheduled for commissioning 36 months after placement of orders and subsequent units at intervals of four monthe each thereafter.

Being regional projects the electricity generated at the tnree plants would be distributed to the beneficiary States in the concerned Regions in accordance with the formula relating to allocation of power from Central Sector Thermal Projects.

Grant of Industrial Licence

3445. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA; Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications pending grant of Industrial licence from Orissa, with the Central Government for the last three years; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OP STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRl M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b)' As on 21-3-1988, nine applications for grant of industrial licences for setting up industries in Orissa were at various stages of processing. Details of pending Industrial Licence applications are not divulged till the Government have taken final de- cision thereon.